# APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
# SOUTH CAROLINA SHORELINE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Topic: Template and Progress Review
June 20, 2008 – 9:00am-3:45pm

This document is not intended to be a meeting transcript, *per se*. It is a summary of key themes and some (though not all) of the background dialogue. The meeting summary's structure roughly parallels that of the meeting agenda but is not necessarily true to the temporal order of discussion. A digital recording of the meeting is located at SCDHEC-OCRM's Charleston office.

## In Attendance:

*1) Advisory Committee members:*

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| Jeff Allen, | Clemson University |
| Sara Brown, | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| Mark Caldwell, | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – *alt. for Tim Hall* |
| Mary Conley, | The Nature Conservancy |
| Toni Connor-Rooks, | City of Folly Beach |
| Rick DeVoe, | S.C. Sea Grant Consortium |
| Kirstin Dow, | University of South Carolina |
| Josh Eagle, | University of South Carolina |
| Jill Foster, | Town of Hilton Head Island |
| Paul Gayes, | Coastal Carolina University |
| Tina Hadden, | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| Tim Hall, | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| Norm Levine, | College of Charleston |
| Tara Miller, | NOAA Coastal Services Center – *alt. for Jeff Payne* |
| Jim Morris, | University of South Carolina |
| Bob Van Dolah, | S.C. Department of Natural Resources |
| Nancy Vinson, | S.C. Coastal Conservation League – *alt. for Hamilton Davis* |

*2) S.C. Department of Health & Environmental Control:*

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| Dan Burger, | OCRM Communication & Technical Resources Director |
| Braxton Davis, | OCRM Science & Policy Director |
| Sadie Drescher, | OCRM Research Specialist |
| Bill Eiser, | OCRM Staff Oceanographer |
| Brittany Hickey, | USC Intern |
| Shawn Kiernan, | OCRM Senior Coastal Planner |
| Mark Messersmith, | OCRM Research Specialist |
| Marvin Pontiff, | OCRM Assistant Deputy Commissioner |
| Melissa Rada, | OCRM Science & Policy Program Coordinator |
| Matt Slagel, | NOAA Coastal Management Fellow |
| Elizabeth Von Kolnitz, | OCRM Planning Director |

*3) S.C. Office of Human Resources*

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| Nathan Strong, | Facilitator |

*4) S.C. Shoreline Change State of Knowledge Report Contractor:*

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| Ross Nelson, | Tidewater Environmental Services, Inc.; Charleston, SC |

**Public Comment Period:**

Rob Rettew of the Hunting Island Beach Preservation Association (HIBPA) updated the Committee on the status of the erosion on Hunting Island. Three or four cabins may need to be torn down soon because of erosion, and a minor maintenance renourishment permit has not yet been approved. HIBPA met recently with Governor Mark Sanford to discuss assistance with expediting the permitting process, implementing user fees as a revenue source, and forming a task force to create a long-term beach management plan. The Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT)'s current policy does not allow the Hunting Island leaseholders to move their properties landward, so Mr. Rettew hopes the Committee considers working with PRT and other state agencies to determine language that would not be restrictive and would potentially allow retreat to occur in this area in the future.

**Overview of Progress to Date:**

Braxton Davis, Director of OCRM's Science & Policy Division, provided a brief overview of the Shoreline Change Initiative and the purpose of the Advisory Committee. To date, there have been two orientation meetings focused on OCRM authorities and activities, the Committee work plan and process, and shoreline management in other states. The Committee has also examined research and information needs, and South Carolina's policies concerning retreat, beach renourishment, and beachfront erosion control. The Committee members introduced themselves, and they approved the minutes from the meeting on May 8, 2008 (the final minutes are now posted on the Shoreline Change Advisory Committee website).

Dr. Davis then discussed the following shoreline-related projects that OCRM is currently working on or is helping to fund:

- Shoreline Change State of Knowledge report
  - Tidewater Environmental Services, Inc.

- "Meta-Analysis" of past beach renourishment projects in SC
  - SC Department of Natural Resources

- Beachfront Management policy and socioeconomic research
  - Clemson University

- NOAA Coastal Management Fellowship program
  - OCRM has hired a Fellow to work on shoreline change issues for 2 years

- Pictometry imagery and software acquisition
  - Oblique, high-resolution imagery has a wide range of applications

- Armorflex® study at Baruch
  - Exploring the use of an alternative erosion control device on a tidal creek

Dr. Davis also explained how OCRM is seeking to respond to the research priorities identified by the Committee at the meeting on January 25, 2008 (see http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/ocrm/science/docs/SCAC/minutes/SCAC%20FINAL%20MINUTES%20012508.pdf), including contributions to a statewide systematic interagency LiDAR project, and several proposed projects to address the need for historic and current digital marsh/estuarine shorelines; monitoring of estuarine shoreline change and marsh migration; common standards for shoreline definitions; a shoreline inventory and classification system; and improved maps of natural, cultural, and economic resources in close proximity to beachfront and estuarine shorelines.

## General Discussion of Draft Policy Templates:

The Committee members reviewed the 13 draft policy templates that have been developed so far. There are five beachfront erosion control draft templates, four nourishment draft templates, and four retreat draft templates. Eight of the draft templates are directed toward SCDHEC-OCRM authorities or activities, and five are directed towards other entities such as local governments and federal agencies. A recurring theme throughout is that each template needs to be clearly defined with respect to the existing problem or issue, the rationale or justification, and the proposed policy change. Since some of the draft templates build upon each other, the Committee members believe that the format of the final report needs to be carefully organized so that there is a logical progression. The Committee also discussed potentially developing a set of public education and outreach draft templates, which could include such topics as real estate disclosure and general coastal hazards education.

## Future Meeting Schedule:

**Next meeting: Role of Local Governments in Beachfront Planning; August 20, 2008**

**Place: SCDNR Marine Resources Research Institute Auditorium, Ft. Johnson**

Format: A public comment period will follow presentations and facilitated discussion.

## Next Steps and Agreements:

1) Committee members who arrived late to the meeting or who were unable to attend are encouraged to get in touch with OCRM to listen to the full audio transcript, which is available in OCRM's Charleston office.

2) Submitted written public comment materials will be distributed to Committee members. Oral public comments are described in the meeting minutes. All public comments will be available in full at OCRM's Charleston office.

3) Prior to the next meeting, OCRM will send the Committee an agenda for the meeting, the revised policy option template outline that was discussed, and draft meeting minutes for review.

4) Meeting materials including approved minutes and public comments will be posted: http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/ocrm/science/shoreline_comm.htm